HOUSE BILL 3376

By Odom

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 12, Chapter 3 and Title 12, Chapter 4, relative to public bidding.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 12, Chapter 3, Part 8, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

12-3-8___.

- (a) For purposes of this section, a "preferred vendor" means a business:
 - (1) Incorporated in this state;
 - (2) That has its principal place of business in this state; and
- (3) Whose workforce is composed of at least eighty (80) percent of Tennessee residents.
- (b) The state or any political subdivision thereof may award a contract to a preferred vendor instead of the lowest responsible and responsive bidder as long as the preferred vendor's bid is no more than five percent (5%) greater than the bid of the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.
- SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012, the public welfare requiring it.